

wherein the polypeptide activates one or more FGF receptors, regulates the growth and differentiation of cells within the liver, regulates other cell types following secretion from the liver, plays a role in liver chemotaxis, has an oncogenic activity, or serves as an antigen for generating antibodies;

(d) an allelic variant or splice variant of any of (a), (b) or (c);

(e) the nucleotide sequence of the DNA insert in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-626;

(f) a nucleotide sequence of (b), (c), or (d) encoding a polypeptide fragment of at least about 25 amino acid residues wherein the polypeptide fragment activates one or more FGF receptors, regulates the growth and differentiation of cells within the liver, regulates other cell types following secretion from the liver, plays a role in liver chemotaxis, has an oncogenic activity, or serves as an antigen for generating antibodies;

(g) a nucleotide sequence of (a), (b), or (c) comprising a fragment of at least about 16 to 18 nucleotides;

(h) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide that has a substitution and/or deletion of 1 to 100 amino acid residues in the amino acid sequence as set forth in either SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 wherein the polypeptide activates one or more FGF receptors, regulates the growth and differentiation of cells within the liver, regulates other cell types following secretion from the liver, plays a role in liver chemotaxis, has an oncogenic activity, or serves as an antigen for generating antibodies;

(i) a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the complement of any of (a) - (h); and

(j) a nucleotide sequence complementary to any of (a), (b), (c), or (i).

Please amend the paragraph at page 3, line 16 to page 4, line 4 as follows:

² The invention also provides for an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4;

(b) the mature amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 6 comprising a mature amino terminus at residue 29 in the mature human amino acid sequence and at residue 30 in the mature mouse amino acid sequence, optionally further comprising an amino-terminal methionine;

C² (c) a fragment of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 comprising at least about 25 amino acid residues wherein the fragment activates one or more FGF receptors, regulates the growth and differentiation of cells within the liver, regulates other cell types following secretion from the liver, plays a role in liver chemotaxis, has an oncogenic activity, or serves as an antigen for generating antibodies;

(d) the amino acid sequence encoded by the DNA insert of ATCC Deposit No. PTA-626;

(e) an ortholog of SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4; and

(f) an allelic variant or splice variant of (a), (b), (d), or (e).

Please amend the paragraph at page 8, lines 7-13 as follows:

C³ The term "FGF-like nucleic acid molecule" refers to a nucleic acid molecule comprising or consisting essentially of a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3, comprising or consisting essentially of a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4, comprising or consisting essentially of a nucleotide sequence of the DNA insert in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-626, or nucleic acid molecules related thereto.

Please amend the paragraph at page 71, lines 23-26 as follows:

C⁴ A deposit of cDNA encoding FGF-like polypeptide in *E. coli* strain DH10B has been made with the American Type Culture Collection, 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA 20110-2209 on September 3, 1999 and having accession No. PTA-626.

In the Claims:

Please amend the following claims:

- Sub 01* 1. (Twice Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3;
 - (b) a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4;
 - (c) the nucleotide sequence of the DNA insert in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-626;
 - (d) a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes under moderately or highly stringent conditions to the complement of any of (a) - (c); and
 - (e) a nucleotide sequence complementary to any of (a) - (c).

2. (Amended) A recombinant host cell comprising a nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of Claims 1, 39, or 40.

- C6* 12. (Amended) A process for determining whether a compound inhibits FGF-like polypeptide activity or FGF-like polypeptide production comprising exposing a cell according to Claim 2 to the compound, and measuring FGF-like polypeptide activity or FGF-like polypeptide production in said cell.

- Sub P3* 13. (Amended) A process for producing a protein comprising growing a culture of the host cell of Claim 9 in suitable culture medium and isolating the protein from the culture.

- C7* 36. (Twice Amended) A method of modulating levels of an FGF-like polypeptide in an animal comprising administering to the animal the nucleic acid molecule of Claims 1, 39, or 40.

- C8 NE* 39. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

NE
CB

(a) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide that is at least about 80 percent identical to the polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 wherein the polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide as set forth in either SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4, or serves as an antigen for generating antibodies;

(b) a nucleotide sequence encoding an allelic variant or splice variant of either the nucleotide sequence as set forth in either SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3; the nucleotide sequence of the DNA insert in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-626; or (a) wherein the polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide as set forth in either SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4;

(c) a nucleotide sequence of either SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3; the DNA insert in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-626; (a); or (b); encoding a polypeptide fragment of at least about 25 amino acid residues wherein the polypeptide fragment has an activity of the polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4, or serves as an antigen for generating antibodies;

(d) a nucleotide sequence of either SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3; the DNA insert in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-626; or (a) - (c) comprising a fragment of at least about 16 nucleotides;

(e) a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes under moderately or highly stringent conditions to the complement of any of (a) - (d) and wherein the polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide as set forth in either SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4; and

(f) a nucleotide sequence complementary to any of (a) - (c).

40. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide as set forth in either SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 with at least one conservative amino acid substitution, wherein the polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4;

(b) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide as set forth in either SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 with at least one amino acid insertion, wherein the polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4;

(c) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide as set forth in either SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 with at least one amino acid deletion, wherein the polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4;

(d) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide as set forth in either SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 which has a C- and/or N- terminal truncation, wherein the polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4;

(e) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide as set forth in either SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 with at least one modification selected from the group consisting of amino acid substitutions, amino acid insertions, amino acid deletions, C-terminal truncation, and N-terminal truncation, wherein the polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4;

(f) a nucleotide sequence of any of (a) - (e) comprising a fragment of at least about 16 nucleotides;

(g) a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes under moderately or highly stringent conditions to the complement of any of (a) - (f); and

(h) a nucleotide sequence complementary to any of (a) - (e).

Please add the following claims:

44. A process for determining whether a compound inhibits FGF-like polypeptide activity or FGF-like polypeptide production comprising exposing a cell according to Claim 8 to the compound, and measuring FGF-like polypeptide activity or FGF-like polypeptide production in said cell.

45. A process for determining whether a compound inhibits FGF-like polypeptide activity or FGF-like polypeptide production comprising exposing a cell according to Claim 9 to the compound, and measuring FGF-like polypeptide activity or FGF-like polypeptide production in said cell.